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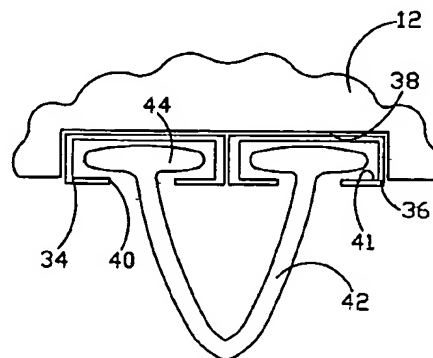
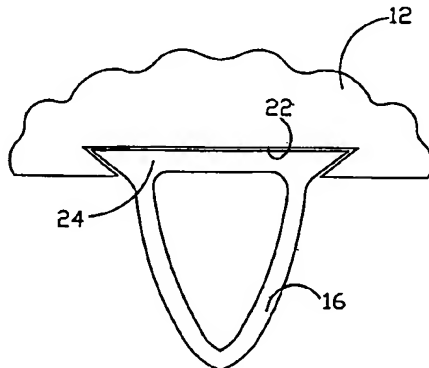
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(54) Title: FLEXIBLE KEEL AND FITTING THEREFOR



(57) Abstract: Water craft or amphibious vehicle (10, fig. 1), comprises hull (12) fitted with at least one elongate longitudinal keel (16, 42); which may be extruded from rubber. The keel has at least one mounting formation (24, 44), to engage with channel formation (22, 41). The keel may be mounted directly into hull (12); alternatively, at least one mounting structure may comprise an extrusion (34, 36) (or 30, fig. 4); mounted into a channel (38) (or 28, fig. 4) in the hull. The keel may be flexible to resist damage if grounded; but is laterally stiff to aid handling on water. The keel may be slid into place longitudinally; and may be finished with a rubber end piece, protected by a further metal end piece (18, 20, fig. 2). Both end pieces may be detachable. Keel (16) may be foam filled; or may be inflated with fluid to alter its cross section.